



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

EL DORADO CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
RAY ROBERTS, WARDEN

Kathleen Sebelius, Governor
Roger Werholtz, Secretary

www.dc.state.ks.us

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CSIII Dale R. Call 316-322-2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE.

The El Dorado Correctional Facility was notified at approximately 4:30 AM that the two escaped inmates and the former correctional employee have been apprehended in Grants, New Mexico. Grants' city police officers and the Cipola County sheriff officers were responding to a call of suspicious activity in an apartment complex parking lot. Upon arrival they encountered inmate Jesse L. Bell and while subduing him, inmate Steven A. Ford fired upon the officers. Officers returned fire and inmate Ford surrendered without further incident. No injuries were reported during the incident, but both inmates requested medical assistance for injuries received during their escape. Former KDOC employee Amber Goff was located and arrested near the apartment complex.

All fugitives were booked into the Cibola County Detention Center, where they will be held until arrangements are made for their return to Butler County, Kansas.

The Department of Corrections will work to bring those involved to prosecution to the full extent of the law. In addition, a full review of facility operations is being conducted to ensure that the citizens of Kansas will continue to be served effectively.

Secretary of Corrections Roger Werholtz and the Kansas Department of Corrections want to express their appreciation to the numerous local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies for their prompt assistance in this investigation. Included are the United States Marshal Service, the Butler County, KS and Cipola County, NM Sheriffs Departments; the Augusta, KS and Grants City, NM Police Departments; and the employees of the Kansas Department of Corrections and the El Dorado Correctional Facility. Special thanks are extended to the media who provided coverage and the citizens who provided numerous tips during the investigation.